

CAREERS IN BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

Architectural Drafter

Architectural drafters may also be known as building associates, architectural draftspersons or architectural technicians when working under the direction of an architect. When not working under an architect's supervision, they are known as building drafters, drafting officers or building designers.

Architectural drafters carry out technical support functions in architecture by preparing drawings and estimates to implement architects' and others' sketch plans.

Architectural drafters perform a range of tasks including:

- ◆ preparing architectural and working drawings showing plans, elevations, sections, materials, finishes and other aspects such as layouts, plumbing, drainage, car parking and landscaping;
- ◆ calculating the quantity and quality of materials needed, material and labour costs, and timeframes;
- ◆ interpreting client briefs and preparing and developing sketch plans for client approval;
- ◆ helping to prepare building specifications to suit individual clients;
- ◆ representing or assisting architects on building sites to ensure plans and specifications are followed;
- ◆ liaising with local governments; and
- ◆ examining relevant codes and by-laws in the course of undertaking project documentation.

Architectural drafters spend some time outdoors inspecting sites.

Personal Requirements

- ◆ able to visualise ideas in three dimensional form
- ◆ interest in technical drawing
- ◆ neatness and patience for producing accurate work
- ◆ some artistic talent in freehand drawing.

Education and Training

To become an architectural drafter you need to complete an accredited course in design or drafting.

